Raw Materials.		*Quantity Tons.*	*Value Rs.*
Asbestos	...	143	21,450
Feldspar	...	849	16,980
Vermiculite	...	349	10,470
Graphite	...	365	18,250
Soapstone (bricks)	...	9,380	37,520
Beryl	...	3	1,800

1223. The sale of different minerals amounted to Rs. 4,39,079 (Rs. 3,89,413). The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 5,20,982.

Second Five-Year Plan.

1224. The different schemes of mineral development and exploration proposed to be taken up by the Department were considered by the State Committee for Development and Planning in May 1955 and the following six Schemes were included under the Second Five Year-Plan at a cost of Rs. 23 lakhs:—

1. Exploitation of Chromite deposits.
2. Development of Soapstone Industry.
3. Exploration of Sulphide ore in Chitaldrug District.
4. Plant for Beneficiation of Manganese ore.
5. Refining of China clay.
6. Mineral survey and exploitation of economic mineral deposits in the Malnad.

1225. The scheme No. 3 relating to mineral survey and exploration has been deleted as the same is stated to overlap the work of the Government of India organisations.

(ii) Archæology.

Conservation of ancient monuments.

1226. A number of protected monuments were inspected in connection with their repairs and conservation during the year. Among the important monuments inspected were, the Sri Ramadevaru temple at Kudalur, Channapatna taluk, Sri Lakshminarasimha temple at Vighnasante, Tiptur taluk, Sri Divyalingesvara temple at Haradanahalli, Chamarajanagar taluk and Sri Ranganathaswami temple at Magadi.

1227. The Siddhesvara temple at Belagutti which is a typically late Chalukya monument built by the Sindas is in an advanced state of decay.

Exploration.

1228. Fifteen new monuments were discovered from different parts of the State. Among them were :—

1. Sri Lakshminarasimha temple at Arakere in Arsikere taluk, is a trikutachala monument of about the 13th Century A.D. built in the Hoysala style of architecture, with a row of figure sculptures on the outer wall; beautiful Venugopala, Lakshminarasimha and Kesava images in the three shrines (Cells), and well worked ceilings.

2. Sri Narasimha temple at Narasipura in the Belur taluk, is another monument in the Hoysala style and is of large dimensions. This monument was built during the reign of the Hoysala king Narasimha I and dedicated to the God Yoganarasimha. A few of its ceilings, the doorway of the Goddess shrine, and also the main image of Yoganarasimha are some of the best examples of the exuberant carvings typical of Hoysala architecture and sculpture.

3. Sri Bhairava temple on Bhairavanagudda in the Belur taluk, is of an ordinary type with plain walls and plain stepped pyramidal tower on the garbhagriha. But some of the figure sculptures within the temple, *viz.*, the Panchayatana group of images in the navaranga containing the seated Vishnu image in Dhyanasana pose, two Surya images, Kumara on peacock, and Mahisasuramardini in vigorous attitude of killing the demon Mahisasura, and the main image of standing Bhairava have all been exquisitely carved in the Hoysala style.

4. Sri Mallinatha and Sri Lakshminarayana temples at Kyathanahalli in the Heggaddevankote taluk are noteworthy monuments discovered in the Mysore District. The Mallinatha temple which goes back to the early 12th century A.D. has a garbhagriha, a sukhanasi and a navaranga of very small dimensions with all early characteristics, rightangled pilasters on the outer walls, stepped pyramidal tower with a stone kalasa above, and slender and short double vase type pillars in the navaranga. The Lakshminarayana temple which was built a generation later, on the other hand, appears to have been rebuilt at a very late period.

At Byadamalalu in the Chamarajanagar taluk, a few stray figure sculptures lying in a heap on a mound,

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were also discovered, among which is a rare figure of Ravana standing with all his ten heads and twenty hands in the marching attitude. The figure is about 3 feet high.

5. The most important of the monuments discovered during the year comes from a village Ballesvara in the Honnali taluk. The Ballesvara temple which has given its name to the village is a trikutachala with three garbhagrihas, three sukhanasis and a common navaranga. The lathe-turned and star-shaped pillars in the navaranga, the beautifully worked ceilings and the elaborately carved doorways are all typically of Hoysala type.

1229. Next in importance are the two monuments discovered at Belagutti in the same taluk. One is the Siddheswara temple, and the other that of Channakesava. The Siddheswara temple, is a trikutachala with a high stepped pyramidal tower on each garbhagriha, the steps having upward dentil mouldings at close intervals. The outer walls which are plain have a large horizontal band in the centre with a row of flowers. A beautiful Umamaheswara group adorns a niche in the navaranga. The ceilings, the pillars and the beams have all been elegantly worked. Besides these, there are number of viragals (hero-stones) and inscriptions standing all round the monument giving the history of the Sindas who ruled those parts in the 11th and 12th centuries A.D. This monument appears to have been built in the 11th century A.D. by the Sinda rulers. The Channakesava temple at the same place is also of the same type and period though not of high architectural value.

1230. Other monuments noticed during the year are the Tirtha-Rameswara temple near Belagutti, the Siddhesvara temple at Kammaraghatta, Honnali taluk, the Visvanatha temple at Bilijagalimole in Malavalli taluk.

1231. A good number of megaliths were discovered in several places in the State during the year.

1232. The outstanding discovery is a new site of early man who lived in Mysore 30 to 40 thousand years ago, situated near the Banasandra hill range. Stone tools and implements which he used were picked up and are under study. A sketch map of the site has been prepared, comprising the various small stream courses where these tools are to be found in abundance.

1233. A large map incorporating the location of all the megalithic sites so far discovered was prepared.

Epigraphy.

1234. The Department has collected about thirty inscriptions during the year including four copper plate records. These inscriptions belong to the different dynasties like the Kadambas, Gangas, Rashtrakutas, Hoysalas, Vijayanagar Rulers and Nayaks ranging in the date from about 400 A. D. to about the 17th century A. D.

1235. Among the copper plate records is a set of three plates belonging to the reign of Mrigesavarma, the early Kadamba Ruler. It comes from Kumsi in the Shimoga district. The other three sets were discovered in the village of Chikkasarangi in the Tumkur district. Two of these sets containing five plates each, belong to the reign of the Ganga King Sripurusha who ruled parts of Mysore during the 8th century A.D. while the other which has seven plates belongs to the reign of the Rashtrakuta King Govinda III, also of the latter half of the eighth century A.D. These records throw valuable light on the history of the Kadambas, Gangas and the Rashtrakutas.

1236. As regards the discovery of lithic records, mention may be made of an inscribed slab which had been built into the Dorasamudra tank bund at Halebid. It records the erection of a Mallikarjuna temple (which no longer exists) during the reign of Vira Ballala II, a Hoysala King, by Mahadevanna and Buchiaboppisetti, the officers under the king. Three other lithic records discovered at Sravanabelagola, Huliyar and Nittur respectively are of great importance in view of the fact that they helped in determining the date of the monuments near which they were found, *viz.*, the Chennabasadi at Sravanabelgola, the Siddhesvara temple at Huliyar and the Parsvanatha Basti at Nittur.

1237. A small hoard of ten gold coins and a gold limp discovered near Thippur in the Maddur taluk appear to be the issues of Kantirava Narasaraja Wadiyar, the Mysore King.

1238. The receipts and expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 27,204-15-8 and Rs. 27,204-15-8 respectively during the year.